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KITTRELL JOB CORPS STUDENTS SAVE ADVISER'S LIFE

KITTRELL, N.C. – Two Kittrell Job Corps Center students – 16-year-old Erica Clegg of Erwin and 21-year-old Alicia Powell of Conover – were recently honored during a student assembly for saving the life of Rose Thomas, a residential adviser at the center.

Thomas was leaving her room in one of the center's dorms when she began to choke on a piece of hard candy. Clegg, who was in the hallway at the time, became alarmed when she noticed her RA frantically motioning with her hands.

"At first I thought that she was having a heart attack," Clegg said. "When I realized that she was choking, I began to hit her on the back. I was pretty scared because Ms. Thomas didn't look good."

Powell, who was in her room, heard the commotion and rushed out into the hall. When she realized that Thomas was choking, she performed the Heimlich maneuver on Thomas until the candy was expelled.

"My uncle had to do it [the Heimlich] to me once when I was 13," Powell, a health occupations student, said. "I guess I still remembered it."

Thomas, reflecting on the May 15 incident commented, "By God's merciful grace and the quick thinking of these students, my life was saved."

Center Director Jim Payseur praised the girls saying, "The heroic actions of these girls, not only reflects their courage and talent, but is a great credit to the entire Job Corps program."

The Job Corps Southeast Region, headquartered in Atlanta, administers 19 training centers and oversees outreach and career transition services for students in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. North Carolina has four

Job Corps centers: Kittrell Job Corps Center, Lyndon B. Johnson Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center in Franklin, Oconaluftee Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center in Cherokee and Schenck Job Corps Center in Pisgah Forest.

For more information, call (800) 733-JOBS or visit the Job Corps Southeast Region Web site at www.jobcorpsregion3.com.

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